

**No Tit-for-Tat—in Waiting for God**  
*David Honors Saul at Death*  
*The King and the People Series*

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1

**What We Will Learn**

- David honored Saul as fallen king of Israel
- Despite Saul's enmity toward him
- Individual responsibility in human relationship
- Unidirectional and independent
- Every person is accountable for his/her responsibility in any human relationship
- Irrespective of what the other party does
- 2 Samuel 1

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2

**David Mourns for Saul**

- David and followers mourned
  - For Saul and Jonathan
  - For the army of the Lord
  - And nation of Israel
- When he was informed
- Israel was defeated by Philistines
- Saul and Jonathan were killed
- 2 Samuel 1:1–12

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3

**2 Samuel 1 (NKJV)**

1 Now it came to pass after the death of Saul, when David had returned from the slaughter of the Amalekites, and David had stayed two days in Ziklag,

2 on the third day, behold, it happened that a man came from Saul's camp with his clothes torn and dust on his head. So it was, when he came to David, that he fell to the ground and prostrated himself.

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4

**2 Samuel 1 (NKJV)**

3 And David said to him, "Where have you come from?" So he said to him, "I have escaped from the camp of Israel."

4 Then David said to him, "How did the matter go? Please tell me." And he answered, "The people have fled from the battle, many of the people are fallen and dead, and Saul and Jonathan his son are dead also."

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5

**2 Samuel 1 (NKJV)**

5 So David said to the young man who told him, "How do you know that Saul and Jonathan his son are dead?"

6 Then the young man who told him said, "As I happened by chance to be on Mount Gilboa, there was Saul, leaning on his spear; and indeed the chariots and horsemen followed hard after him.

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6

## 2 Samuel 1 (NKJV)

7 Now when he looked behind him, he saw me and called to me. And I answered, 'Here I am.'

8 And he said to me, 'Who are you?' So I answered him, 'I am an Amalekite.'

9 He said to me again, 'Please stand over me and kill me, for anguish has come upon me, but my life still remains in me.'

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7

## 2 Samuel 1 (NKJV)

10 So I stood over him and killed him, because I was sure that he could not live after he had fallen. And I took the crown that was on his head and the bracelet that was on his arm, and have brought them here to my lord."

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8

## 2 Samuel 1 (NKJV)

11 Therefore David took hold of his own clothes and tore them, and so did all the men who were with him.

12 And they mourned and wept and fasted until evening for Saul and for Jonathan his son, for the people of the Lord and for the house of Israel, because they had fallen by the sword.

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## Mourning for Saul

- David mourned for Saul
- God's anointed king of Israel
- Honored the authority God conferred on him
- Mourned death of Saul
- Mourned Saul died by the hand of an enemy
- 2 Samuel 1:13–16 and 21

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10

## 2 Samuel 1 (NKJV)

13 Then David said to the young man who told him, "Where are you from?" And he answered, "I am the son of an alien, an Amalekite."

14 So David said to him, "How was it you were not afraid to put forth your hand to destroy the Lord's anointed?"

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11

## 2 Samuel 1 (NKJV)

15 Then David called one of the young men and said, "Go near, and execute him!" And he struck him so that he died.

16 So David said to him, "Your blood is on your own head, for your own mouth has testified against you, saying, 'I have killed the Lord's anointed.'"

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12

## 2 Samuel 1 (NKJV)

21 “O mountains of Gilboa,  
Let there be no dew nor rain upon you,  
Nor fields of offerings.  
For the shield of the mighty is cast away  
there!  
The shield of Saul, not anointed with oil.

- Lamented that mighty king and warrior Saul
- Was killed at Mt. Gilboa

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13

## Mourning for Jonathan

- “Weapons of war” that perished prematurely
- Admired his bravery and faith
- Cherished his friendship
- Expected to accomplish a lot with Jonathan
- Saddened that all that was gone
- 2 Samuel 1:26–27
- 1 Samuel 23:16–18

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14

## 2 Samuel 1 (NKJV)

26 I am distressed for you, my brother  
Jonathan;  
You have been very pleasant to me;  
Your love to me was wonderful,  
Surpassing the love of women.

27 “How the mighty have fallen,  
And the weapons of war perished!”

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15

## 1 Samuel 23 (NIV)

- Earlier David-Jonathan interaction

16 And Saul’s son Jonathan went to David at  
Horesh and helped him find strength in God.

17 “Don’t be afraid,” he said. “My father Saul  
will not lay a hand on you. You will be king  
over Israel, and I will be second to you. Even  
my father Saul knows this.”

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16

## 1 Samuel 23 (NIV)

18 The two of them made a covenant before  
the Lord. Then Jonathan went home, but  
David remained at Horesh.

- Expected to accomplish more with Jonathan
- But all that has now perished
- So he mourned for Jonathan
- “Weapons of war” that perished prematurely

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17

## Mourning for Israel and Army

- Believed God had turned away from Israel
- Allowed defeat by “uncircumcised” Philistines
- Spiritual mourning
- Saddened and repentant
- Sought restoration of Israel before God
- And of the “army of the living God”
- 2 Samuel 1:19–20

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18

## 2 Samuel 1 (NKJV)

19 “The beauty of Israel is slain on your high places!

How the mighty have fallen!

20 Tell it not in Gath,  
Proclaim it not in the streets of Ashkelon—  
Lest the daughters of the Philistines rejoice,  
Lest the daughters of the uncircumcised triumph.

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19

## What We Learned

- David mourned for Saul, Jonathan, and Israel
- In recognition of his individual responsibilities
- Regarding relationship with Saul, with Jonathan, and with Israel
- Individual responsibility in human relationship
- Unidirectional and independent of the responsibilities of the other party

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